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UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR ARTIFICIAL DISC INSERTION

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

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AMENDMENT

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is in reply to an Office Action mailed from the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on February 16, 2006. A petition to extend the shorted statutory period for reply from May 16, 2006 to July 16, 2006 and the appropriate fee are enclosed herewith.